

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF ALGERIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS IN 1977 AS
SEEN IN ALGERIAN PRESS

1. IN YEARENDER DEVOTED TO SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN ALGERIA'S
DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS DURING 1977, ALGERIAN PAPERS DEEMED
FOLLOWING EPISODES IN ALGERIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS AS WORTH
HIGHLIGHTING:

24 JAN-SEMINAR ON PORT DEVELOPMENT HELD BY U.S. COMMERCE
DEPARTMENT AND AMERICAN EMBASSY IN COLLABORATION WITH REPS
OF SEVERAL GOA MINISTRIES;

6FEB-SONATRACH SELLS 21 MILLION CUBIC METERS OF GAS TO
"COLUMBIA" AND 18 MILLION CUBIC METERS TO "CONSOLIDATED"
FOR DISTRIBUTION IN U.S. DURING LATTER HALF OF FEBRUARY;

15 FEB-AIR ALGERIA TAKES DELIVERY OF 18TH BOEING;

15FEB-CONTRACT FOR ASSEMBLY OF COMPRESSORS AND COMPAC-
TORS SIGNED BETWEEN SONACOME AND INGERSOLL-RAND. FACTORY
TO BEGIN PRODUCTION IN 1980 AT LEVEL OF 2,500 MOBILE
COMPRESSORS, 500 STATIONARY COMPRESSORS, AND 1,000
COMPACTORS WITH OWRK FORCE OF 800;

10 APR - DELAGATION OF AMERICAN LAWMAKERS MEETS WITH
POLISARIO DELEGATION HEADED BY SAHRAOUI MINISTER OF
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FOREIGN AFFAIRS;

29 MAY - PRESIDENT CARTER SENDS MESSAGE ON NORTH-
SOUTH DIALOGUE TO PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE;

31MAY-CHRISTIAN CHAPMAN, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE FOR EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, ARRIVES
IN ALGIERS FOR VISIT OF SEVERAL DAYS, DURING WHICH
HE HOLDS TALKS WITH ALGERIAN OFFICIALS ON WAYS AND

MEANS TO REINFORCE COOPERATION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES
IN CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND TECHNICAL DOMAINS;
10JUN-ABDELAZIZ MAOUI NAMED NEW ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR
TO U.S.;
13JUL-FOUR NEW AMBASSADORS PRESENT CREDENTIALS TO
PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE, INCLUDING U.S. AMBASSADOR
ULRIC HAYNES;
1OCT- MINISTER OF FINANCE MEETS WITH CHARLES CURTIS,
PRESIDENT OF "FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY" (FERC) TO DIS-
CUSS STATE OF ENERGY RELATIONS BETWEEN ALGERIA AND U.S.;
18 OCT -SAHARAN PROBLEM IS DISCUSSED BY U.S. CONGRES-
SIONAL COMMITTEE.
30 OCT-FPC DECIDES TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF SECOND
SONATRACH-EL-PASO CONTRACT FOR SALE OF 10 BILLION
CUBIC METERS OF ALGERIAN GAS TO U.S. MARKET;
21DEC-SECGEN OF FONMIN RECEIVES AMBASSADORS OF
U.S., USSR, WEST GERMANY, AND YUGOSLAVIA TO INFORM
THEM OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS OF SITUATION IN WESTERN
SAHARA FOLLOWING FRENCH MILITARY INTERVENTION IN REGION.

2. COMMENT: COMPILERS WERE OBVIOUSLY AT PAINS TO POR-
TRAY ALGERIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS IN POSITIVE LIGHT, AS
SIGN OF THEIR NORMALIZATION. IN PAST YEARS, ALGERIAN-
AMERICAN EXCHANGES WERE EITHER IGNORED OR CAST IN NEGATIVE
TERMS, WHILE ALGERIAN-SOVIET AND ALGERIAN-THIRD WORLD
RELATIONS RECEIVED CONSISTENTLY POSITIVE TREATMENT. NOW,
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EVEN ALGERIAN PRESS IS PREPARED TO ADMIT THAT POSITIVE
THINGS CAN AND DO HAPPEN BETWEEN ALGERIA AND U.S.HAYNES

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